

**Testimony before the Judiciary Committee
In opposition of SB 452
An Act Concerning the Care and Treatment of Persons with Psychiatric
Disabilities
March 29, 2012
Carlos Martinez**

Good Morning/Afternoon members of the Judiciary Committee.

Thank you for letting me speak in opposition to SB-452. My name is Carlos Martinez. I am a young adult member and I am coming to you guys about its not right to pass a bill that makes people not make it able to make there own choices and force them to take meds and go to outpatient programs.

The bill will make it harder for people to come to an outpatient program on their own will since they are getting forced by the law and if they do not come they will be forced by a police officer and it's not right because friend and family will see the person getting forced by the police officer into the program.

We have rights to go to programs on our own will. People who are forced into the IOC will finish their treatment because they are losing their right to make their own treatment decisions and it will not work because it was their choice and not yours.

I am currently using medications and they improved life because they temporarily delay feelings of anger which typically end in black out of rage. This delay in anger allows me to practice the coping skills that I am currently learning. Eventually I will need only the coping skills I will have perfected. Free will allows for improved services, increased self-esteem, ownership in recovery, and free choice allows for mutual respect.

Thank you listening to me and I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Carlos Martinez